DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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Secretary of State and San Joaquin County Offer Nonpartisan PSA to Get Out the Vote this November

SACRAMENTO – As the November 2 General election nears, Secretary of State Debra Bowen and San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters Austin Erdman are inviting media to help remind people of their right to vote by mail.

"When you vote by mail, you never have to miss an election because you can't get to a polling place," said Secretary Bowen, the state's chief elections officer.

Erdman added, "Voting by mail is convenient, costs less, gives voters a longer opportunity to study and vote their ballot, and is greener for the environment."

Between now and October 26, broadcast media are invited to air a 30-second nonpartisan public service announcement, which is available in MP3 and WAV file formats (see links below). Newspapers and stations that wish to craft their own pieces may use the Secretary of State's script as a guide.

Did you know any California voter can vote by mail? To sign up to vote by mail, call the San Joaquin County Elections Office at (209) 468-2890.

Or go online to www.sjcrov.org.

Sign up by October 26 with your county elections office.

That number again: (209) 468-2890.

www.sos.ca.gov\admin\press-releases\psa\2010\SanJoaquin-vbm-psa.mp3 (567 KB) www.sos.ca.gov\admin\press-releases\psa\2010\SanJoaquin-vbm-psa.wav (4.84 MB)

The deadline to register to vote in the November 2 election is October 18. Registration forms are available at most post offices, public libraries and government offices. People can also fill out a form online at www.sos.ca.gov/nvrc/fedform, then print, sign and mail it.

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot is October 26. California voters may obtain a vote-by-mail application online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vote-by-mail/pdf/fill-in-vote-by-mail-app-instruct.pdf or by calling their own county elections office. Contact information for all 58 county elections offices is at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm.

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